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*Russia in the Shadows.* By H. G. WELLS. New York: George H. Doran Co., 1921. Pp. 179. \$1.50.

This is a journalistic description of what Mr. Wells saw in a fifteen days' visit to Russia in September, 1920. It is a moderate, sane, and sympathetic account of the utter breakdown of civilization in Russia. The famine has greatly reinforced his conclusions.

The direct cause of its downfall has been modern war leading to physical exhaustion. Only through that could the Bolsheviki have secured power. Nothing like this Russian downfall has ever happened before. If it goes on for a year or so more the process of collapse will be complete [p. 172].

The collapse of the civilized system in Russia into peasant barbarism means that Europe will be cut off for many years from all the mineral wealth of Russia, and from any supply of raw products from this area, from its corn, flax, and the like. It is an open question whether the Western Powers can get along without these supplies. Their cessation certainly means a general impoverishment of Western Europe [p. 173].

Hence, the completest possible relief and reconstruction is imperative. This is now being recognized as true, and it is to be hoped that thorough relief will be carried out even if for no other reason than to insure the success of the disarmament conference at Washington.

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*American Police Systems.* By RAYMOND B. FOSDICK. New York: The Century Co., 1920. Pp. x+408. \$2.00.

How may a democracy be efficient? In no realm of public administration is this question asked with more insistence—and, perhaps, with more despair—than in the police administration of our American cities. Fosdick, in his book on the American police systems makes a valuable contribution to our appreciation of the seriousness of this dilemma. How should policemen be chosen; how should their advancement be determined; how should they be governed; what is a chief of police and how should he be selected; what is his relation to the body of uniformed men on one side and to the city's executive on the other; how all these questions are complicated by political considerations—through these and many other administrative problems Fosdick points out the essentially anarchic elements inherent in the conception of liberty held by the voters of this country.

It would be an interesting study to trace the rise of this variant. One is not at all satisfied with Fosdick's explanation, for it has elements of contradiction within itself. If this anarchism is a resultant, as he